

MOTION BY MAYOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

MARCH 13, 2007

The Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (QHWRA) revised provisions of the United States Housing Act of 1937 to provide additional statutory authority concerning crime and security provisions to most federally assisted housing programs. In 2001, the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles implemented these provisions.

The Act provided public housing authorities with the tools to adopt and implement fair, effective, and comprehensive policies for screening new Section 8 applicants who may engage in illegal drug use or other criminal activity. One provision allowed public housing authorities to conduct criminal background checks for all new Section 8 applicants. Existing Section 8 participants that received rental assistance prior to July 2001 were excluded from this provision.

In an effort to ensure program integrity, it is important that the Housing Authority have the ability to conduct criminal background checks on all Section 8 participants that receive rental assistance, regardless of the date during which they integrated into the program. Additionally, background checks should be conducted randomly on ten percent of all program participants on an annual basis.

- M O R E -

MOTION

| | |
|-------------|-------|
| Molina | _____ |
| Burke | _____ |
| Knabe | _____ |
| Antonovich | _____ |
| Yaroslavsky | _____ |

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors, acting as the Commissioners of the Housing Authority:

1. Send a five-signature letter to the Los Angeles Congressional Delegation and the Administration recommending the introduction of legislation to authorize public housing authorities to:
 - conduct criminal background checks on existing Section 8 participants that received rental assistance prior to July 2001;
 - conduct annual criminal background checks at random on ten percent of the existing Section 8 participants; and
 - take appropriate action on a case-by-case basis for existing Section 8 participants that have engaged in criminal activity prior to receiving rental assistance.
2. Direct the Executive Director of the Housing Authority, working with the County's advocates, the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation, and national organizations, to support this legislation

#

MDA:pno